

DOE Weekly Field Memo – September 29, 2010

From the Vermont Department of Education:

- **Commissioner Supports Rowland Foundation**
- **2011 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) School Coordinator Responsibilities**
- **Save the Date: Special Education Staff Schedules Training**
- **Save the Date: School Transformation...Be the Buzz! A Statewide Conference for High-School Youth and Adult Teams**

From the Connecticut Department of Education:

- **Workshops for Title IX Coordinators and Other School Officials**

Commissioner Supports Rowland Foundation

Audience: Principals, Superintendents

All Vermont superintendents and high school principals recently received a letter from The Rowland Foundation requesting proposals for their 2011 grants. The application deadline for the next round of grants is **December 17, 2010**. The Foundation is looking to fund proposals from visionary teachers who, in partnership with their principals, seek systemic change in their schools. The successful applicants will be awarded \$50,000 for a fall 2011 sabbatical to conduct research related to their vision. Substitute teacher costs are covered by the grant. Upon return to their schools in January 2012, the Rowland Fellows and their schools will receive an additional \$50,000 to implement their initiative.

Commissioner Vilaseca supports the efforts of The Rowland Foundation and its Executive Director, Chuck Scranton, the former headmaster of Burr and Burton Academy. The mission of the Foundation certainly parallels work at the state level to transform high schools and support efforts that make learning more authentic for Vermont students. More information about the Foundation's work and the proposals which have been funded over the past two years can be found on their Web site at

<http://www.therowlandfoundation.org>

2011 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) School Coordinator Responsibilities

Audience: Superintendents, Principals, School Test Coordinators, Teachers

Now is the time for each principal of a school selected for NAEP to appoint a school test coordinator. The school test coordinator is the liaison for all NAEP activities in your school. Each school test coordinator must register by October 7th on the MySchool Web site. The MySchool Web site is used to collect information about your school and provide you with documents that you can download and customize throughout the NAEP assessment process. Multiple school staff may register to access the site. To register for MySchool, go to <http://www.mynaep.com> and complete the form using the registration ID provided by your NAEP State Coordinator. For more information visit

http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm_assessment/data.html#myschool.

Contact: Challis Breithaupt, NAEP State Coordinator, at (802) 828-5892 or challis.breithaupt@state.vt.us

Save the Date: Special Education Staff Schedules Training

Audience: Business Managers, Special Education Directors

Special Education Auditors Lynne Carpenter and Erica Foley-Swinson will provide training for reviewing staff schedules using the new 20 percent Rule that has replaced the Core Staff Rule. The new version of the eligible cost rule for special education instructional staff allows some flexibility to charge special education staff performing mainstream instructional services to special education for the time they provide non-special education services. They would also like to incorporate training on areas of interest that participants may have, time permitting, of course. When calling or emailing to register, please let Erica know what you would like to see presented. Seats are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. For dates, times, locations and registration, go to

<http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/calendar.html#percent>.

Contact: Erica Foley-Swinson at (802) 828-0569 or erica.foley-swinson@state.vt.us to register

Save the Date: School Transformation...Be the Buzz! A Statewide Conference for High-School Youth and Adult Teams (November 12, 9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., Goddard College)

Audience: Students, Principals, Teachers and School Board Members

How do we create a compelling case for change? How do we engage the community in transformation efforts? What strategies will help people re-imagine schooling? How do we use student-developed action research to inform transformation? Members of Vermont's "Youth and Adults Transforming Schools Together" initiative will share effective strategies to address these questions. Participants will leave informed and inspired. They will also leave with a Tool Kit of activities, videos, dialogue options and readings to open the door to school-wide transformation in their own communities. For more information and to register visit <http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/calendar.html#buzz>.

Contact: Helen Beattie at hnbeattie@gmail.com

DOE Contact: Sigrid Lumbra at (802) 828-0200 or sigrid.lumbra@state.vt.us

From the Connecticut Department of Education:

Workshops for Title IX Coordinators and Other School Officials

Audience: School Official Who Conducts Investigations or Receives Complaints of Sex Discrimination/ Sexual Harassment

The U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights has ruled that lack of training can be interpreted as lack of full enforcement of the law. Please take advantage of the workshops offered this fall. Once trained, repeat training is generally not required. Note that any school official who conducts investigations or receives complaints of sex discrimination/sexual harassment should be trained in Title IX. For more information on workshops, as well as other resources for Title IX/Equity Coordinators at <http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2681&q=322602>.

DOE Contact: Barbara Crippen at (802) 828-5937 or barbara.crippen@state.vt.us

Weekly Field Memo is Online!

The DOE Weekly Field Memo is archived on the Department of Education Web site at http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/field_memo.html. Field Memos and the corresponding attachments are available for download. For Field Memo information three months or older, or for other questions, please contact Jill Remick, communications director, at (802) 828-3154 or jill.remick@state.vt.us.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

For the Department of Education Web site see: <http://education.vermont.gov/>. For upcoming events or professional development opportunities, see the DOE Calendar of Events located at: <http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/calendar.html>.

Main Department Line: (802) 828-3135

NOTE: For comments or questions specific to the messages above, please contact the person listed. DO NOT reply to this message.

This Field Memo is posted weekly by the Department of Education to better organize our e-communications to the field. There may be times when separate messages from the department will still be sent.